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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/729,194	12/05/2000	Kousei Isomichi	1614-1100	8580

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EXAMINER

SMITHERS, MATTHEW

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2137

DATE MAILED: 06/18/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/729,194

Applicant(s)

ISOMICHI ET AL.

Examiner

Matthew B Smithers

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 December 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement filed December 5, 2000 has been placed in the application file and the information referred to therein has been considered as to the merits.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. patent 5,918,228 granted to Rich et al.

Regarding claim 1, Rich meets the claimed limitations as follows:

"A gateway system relaying a request from a user for a service provided by another system, the gateway system, characterized by comprising:

an authentication unit which receives the request and authenticates the user;"

see column 5, lines 19-60

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"a service request unit which makes the request on behalf of the user based on a result of an authentication by said authentication unit, using link information and authentication information corresponding to the requested service;" see column 4, lines 7-10

"and an information link unit which incorporates link information concerning the gateway system into link information included in returned data corresponding to the request." see column 2, lines 28-62; column 4, lines 7-48; column 4, line 66 to column 6, line 31.

Regarding claim 2, Rich meets the claimed limitations as follows:

"The gateway system as claimed in claim 1, characterized by having a plurality of systems each including said authentication unit, said service request unit, and said information link unit, the systems being provided in a hierarchical structure." see column 4, lines 61-65.

Regarding claim 3, Rich meets the claimed limitations as follows:

"The gateway system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that:

said service request unit comprises a table in which accessible service information retained by the user is entered, and makes the request for a service on behalf of the user when the service is accessible to the user." see column 5, line 61 to column 6, line 31.

Regarding claim 4, Rich meets the claimed limitations as follows:

"The gateway system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that:

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said service request unit comprises a table in which an option ID -serving as a billing unit is entered in correspondence to the system providing the service, and transmits the option ID in making the request.” see column 5, lines 37-44; column 5, lines 57-60 and Figure 3, elements 56 and 58.

Regarding claim 5, Rich meets the claimed limitations as follows:

“The gateway system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that:

said information link unit converts the link information included in the returned data into the link information concerning the gateway system, the link information included in the returned data being included in control information set in the returned data, the control information including access information of the user to a WWW server.” see column 6, lines 32-67.

Regarding claim 6, Rich meets the claimed limitations as follows:

“The gateway system as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that:

said information link unit converts the link information included in the returned data into the link information concerning the gateway system, the link information included in the returned data being included in control information set in the returned data, the control information including access information of the user to a WWW server.” see column 6, lines 32-67.

Regarding claim 7, Rich meets the claimed limitations as follows:

“The gateway system as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that:

said information link unit converts the link information included in the returned data into the link information concerning the gateway system, the link information

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included in the returned data being included in control information set in the returned data, the control information including access information of the user to a WWW server.”
see column 6, lines 32-67.

Regarding claim 8, Rich meets the claimed limitations as follows:

“The gateway system as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that:

said information link unit converts the link information included in the returned data into the link information concerning the gateway system, the link information included in the returned data being included in control information set in the returned data, the control information including access information of the user to a WWW server.”
see column 6, lines 32-67.

Claims 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 are computer readable medium claims that are substantially equivalent to system claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, and 8, respectively. Therefore, claims 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 are rejected by a similar rationale.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

A. Godwin et al (6,058,426) discloses a system for managing computer resources in a distributed environment.


B. Dunn et al (6,163,536) discloses a communication system using a client controlled gateway.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew B Smithers whose telephone number is (703) 308-9293. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (9:00-5:30) EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory A Morse can be reached on (703) 308-4789. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Matthew B Smithers
Primary Examiner
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